

Wesleyan College News

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An Interview with Dean Cullinan

Preserving Our Heritage; Moving To The Future

"Wesleyan should always represent the leading edge and it is my goal to be sure that we do so."

Q. What was your initial impression of Wesleyan and how has it changed over the last six months in the Dean's office?

A. My initial positive impressions have been confirmed. In many areas Wesleyan has surpassed my expectations. One of my earliest impressions was the strong sense of community among various campus groups. For example, among the students there is a spirit of sisterhood which contributes greatly to the college experience. This sense of community pervades the faculty as well. The faculty work well together — while they, of course, are concerned with their individual disciplines, their primary concern is with the liberal arts and fine arts curriculum as a whole.

The cabinet is another good example of people working together. Our commitment to Wesleyan allows us to reach a consensus on policy matters which we can all support.

The alumnae have retained their own sense of community with the College. During the last few months I've met with many alumnae groups; I am always



Dean Cullinan talks informally with students in her office.

impressed with how interested they are in their alma mater and how strong a bond remains between our graduates and this institution.

The Carnegie Report noted the death of "community" on most college campuses; it urges that colleges commit themselves to re-establishing this value. At Wesleyan, community is flourishing; we are very fortunate. The commonweal of the college is strengthened allowing us greater momentum to move forward.

The degree of momentum is also stronger than I had anticipated. Wesleyan is not a victim of inertia. As the oldest chartered women's college in the country, one might expect a tendency to look back, to live on tradition. While it is very important that we preserve the Wesleyan heritage, "our essence," it is vital that we move ahead. Wesleyan is doing

just that — moving forward, and I might add, with a clear direction and mission. Whether you examine our enrollment, our endowment, or improved SAT entrance scores or our rise in Graduate Record Exam scores, we're advancing. We are constantly improving the curriculum to keep it relevant and responsive. It is a privilege to be a part of this energy and forward progress.

Q. What changes, if any, in Wesleyan's academic programs do you foresee in the near future?

A. I am by nature an "evolutionist" not a "revolutionist." Change in an institution such as Wesleyan should be incremental. The center of the College is our academic program, which must be strong in three parallel areas:

(Continued on page 2)

Ice storm '88 swept through campus on Thursday, January 5th, cancelling classes for two days. Despite the slippery ice, students ventured out and left footprints on the sidewalk between Tate and Taylor Halls.



INTERVIEW

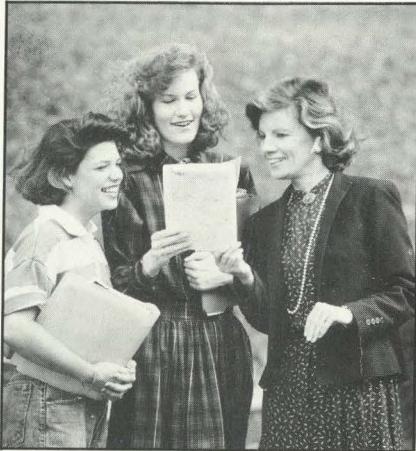
(Continued from page 1)

substantive preparation, skill preparation and ethical preparation. It is in these three directions that I will work for incremental changes.

I would like to speak to each individually. Substantive preparation may be defined as "learning the facts," learning what one needs to know to "land a job," or score well on a graduate entrance exam. We usually refer to this objective as career preparation. It is, however, equally important in a liberal arts setting that students leave college with a core of common knowledge spanning the gamut from the creative arts, to history, to man's social context, to science and mathematics. We are working to integrate this contextual perspective of education into all of our majors. Additionally, we are developing a systematic mechanism through which we can periodically monitor our major programs not only for student achievement but to be sure that the majors themselves are societally relevant while at the same time consistent with our mission and purpose.

As a college, however, we would be remiss if all we did was send each graduate away with her "bag of information." We must provide our students with the skill preparation necessary for life long learning and adaptation to a rapidly changing environment.

It is our responsibility to be sure that students can think critically, synthesize information, and communicate effectively. More specifically, students need to know how to write a resume, conduct an



Seniors Lynn Abney and Ginger McQueen make an appointment with Dean Cullinan.

interview, and use a computer. We are consciously improving and expanding such skill training within the curriculum and we are working to design methods to assess when our students have mastered such skills.

Finally, ethical questions in higher education must be consciously addressed within our curriculum. Our academic program should not be embarrassed to address value choices. For too long institutions of higher education have prided themselves on being "objective," on being "value free." If ethical questions are not addressed on our undergraduate campuses, when and where will they be addressed? Therefore, all courses in our curriculum must conspicuously raise such questions and provide students with the guidance to find resolutions.

Q. What are your goals as Dean?

A. Setting goals is crucial to the success of any organization. I have devoted these early months to studying and learning about the College. In consultation with the faculty, the students, the cabinet, the trustees, and the alumnae, I look forward to

establishing specific goals in the coming months. I can at this time, however, speak to three salient areas which I plan to address. The first is Wesleyan's fine academic reputation. Wesleyan should always represent the leading edge and it is my goal to be sure that we do so.

A closely related goal is to maintain a faculty which possesses the highest academic credentials and is committed to both good teaching and the overall mission of the College. When vacancies occur, vigorous recruitment of highly qualified new faculty is an important priority. It is equally important to provide our existing faculty with the best possible opportunities for their professional development. I want to attract grant money so that faculty can study, travel and stay involved with their disciplines. Their expertise is vital to curriculum refinement in innovative and constructive ways.

Finally, I want to address the needs of students in such a way that they see themselves as colleagues, not clients, during their tenure on campus. Students too often perceive the academic aspect of college to be segregated from the rest of their college experience. Student life and academic life should be one continuous dimension. Through a sharing of ideas, I know we can work together on the issues that matter.

Wesleyan is very healthy. We're healthy financially, in enrollment, in staffing, in physical structure, in leadership under Dr. Ackerman, and spiritually. I believe, however, that there is always room to "optimize," to make what's good, better. I sense an energy on our campus which supports this contention. As the new Dean, I couldn't ask for a more propitious place to be.

The soccer field was ablaze with red, yellow, green and purple as the four classes showed their colors during Color Rush. This money bag, Deana Carlisle '88, stopped long enough to pose. The theme of her class? "The Color of Money."



Alumnae Clubs and Chapters

Wesleyan alumnae clubs have held meetings in the following locations this year:

The **Americus Club** met at the home of Anne Griffin Gatewood '37 in October for a tea. The guest speaker was Jacquelyn Burton Cook '54, author of several books including "Image in a Looking Glass" (whose heroine attends Wesleyan Female College). According to President Cornelia Anne Shriner '25, the club will host a tea in March for local high school seniors who are interested in attending Wesleyan in the fall. Wesleyan freshman Carrie Fairbrother will be the guest of honor.

The highlight of 1987 for the **Atlanta Area Club** was a luncheon featuring Chairman of the Board Valeria McCullough Murphey '48 and Academic Dean Ethel Cullinan. The event was held at the Wyndham Gardens Hotel in Vinings. According to President Juliette Adams Hawk '57, the club is planning a Fashion Show Breakfast at the Lord and Taylor Department Store at Phipps Plaza in February. Another meeting is planned for April or May.

In North Carolina, the **Charlotte Area Club** has planned a meeting on March 26 at The Commons, Davidson College, in Davidson, NC. According to President Annette Rumph Peery '45, Dean Ethel Cullinan has been invited to address the local alumnae.

The **Connecticut Area Club** enjoyed a dinner party this fall hosted by Gayle Attaway Findlay '55 and Patricia Sterling '84.

A group of alumnae from the **Golden Isle** area met at the home of Mary Miller '24 for their annual Christmas tea in December.

The **Macon Area Club** held the Third Annual Horse Show October 3 at the Wesleyan Equestrian Center. The proceeds went to purchase a dressage unit for the Equestrian Center. With the remainder of the money raised from the horse show, the alumnae contributed \$500 to



Food, Fun and Fitness

Macon Area alumnae were treated to a day at the Wesleyan Fitness Center with Alumnae Trustee Martha Bradford Swann '47 on Wednesday, January 6. Before enjoying a light, gourmet luncheon catered by Epicure, the alumnae observed a water aerobics as well as a low impact aerobics class. Trustee wives, Ann Cummings, Peggy Jones, Lynn Neal, Laura Rogers, Pree Sell, Mary Jean Yates, and Katie Young, co-hosted the event. The food section of the **Macon Telegraph and News** carried a feature on the Spa Luncheon. According to Lizann Youmans Provan '81, Director of Recreation and Wellness, the luncheon was a tremendous success. "As a result of the luncheon and an article in the newspaper," said Lizann, "we recruited 30 new members."

the Dice R. Anderson Cabin Restoration Fund.

Later that month an appreciation dinner was held for Frances Bruce Van Horn '53. The local alumnae took a shopping trip to the Valdosta Outlet Mall before the holidays. Nan Dixon Souma '75, president, hosted a Christmas Coffee in December. In February, a Valentines' Fashion Show and luncheon is planned and will be held in the Manget dining room. During Cherry Blossom Week, the Macon club will co-host the 6th Silver Thimble Show with the Macon Chapter, American Needlepoint Guild.

Grace Harris Cook '74, alumnae coordinator for the **Peach Area**, hosted a luncheon held in October at the New Perry Hotel. Katherine Wilson Johnson '68, Director of the Alumnae Admissions Representatives, attended the meeting.

The **South Georgia Area Club** met at the Porter Field Methodist Church in November. According to the vice-president of the **Albany Club**, Jean Cowart Fleming '48, the

alumnae were entertained by Sylvia Anderson Powell '59.

Jean Youmans Coleman '52 was elected president of the **Savannah Area Club** at the fall meeting held in October at the home of Marguerite Stallings McLeod '39. Valeria Murphey and Ethel Cullinan attended the meeting. In December, the alumnae met for their annual Christmas Carol Sing at the home of Susan Wyllys Wallace '72.

Continuing with their theme "Each One Reach One," the **Palm Beach County Area Club** is helping to recruit interested high school seniors at a rally planned by the Wesleyan Admissions Department on March 13th. "The alumnae will be calling on the potential Wesleyannes and arrange transportation to the Deerfield Hilton," said Connie Newman '78, president. "It's a great way for us to help Wesleyan and see each other at the same time." Earlier this year, the alumnae gathered at the home of Arline Atkins Finch '56 for a coffee.



Anderson Dining Hall is full of love and laughter as the Tri-K Pirates of '89 and the returning Golden Hearts of '87 join hands with the freshman class of Golden Hearts and sing the sister song.

Images of Friendships Renewed

1988 Alumnae Weekend — Schedule of Events

All Wesleyan Alumnae Invited

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 12 noon | Early registration for 1938 class and classes before 1938
Olive Swann Porter Foyer |
| 1:00 p.m. | Golden Belles Luncheon
(50th Reunion Class and Classes before 1938)
Hinton Lounge or Manget Dining Room |
| 2:00-5:30 p.m. | Registration — Candler Alumnae Center |
| 2:30 p.m. | Walking tour of Campus |
| 2:30-4:30 p.m. | Tour of Historic Macon (\$11.00) |
| 2:30 p.m. | Alumnae Tennis Tournament |
| 3:00-4:00 p.m. | Review — "Best Sellers of 1888" by Ann Munck '38 |
| 6:30 p.m. | Candlelight Dinner (by reservation only), Oval Hall, Candler Alumnae Center |
| 8:30 p.m. | Scheduled Reunion Class Parties |

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

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|-----------------|---|
| | Early Bird Jogging-Walking and Bird Watching (Fitness Track around Foster Lake) |
| 8:30-9:30 a.m. | Strawberry Breakfast-Bradley House |
| 8:30 a.m. | Alumnae Tennis Tournament Finals |
| 9:00-11:00 a.m. | Late Registration — Candler Alumnae Center |
| 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Reunion Class Meetings (assigned areas)
Non-Reunion Classes Gathering (Rec Room) |
| 10:20 a.m. | Seniors and Candlelighters Assemble, Benson Room, Candler Alumnae Center |
| 10:45 a.m. | Alumnae Assemble — Tate Quadrangle for Parade of Classes |
| 11:00 a.m. | Wesleyan Alumnae Association Annual Meeting, Porter Family Memorial Auditorium |
| 1:00 p.m. | Luncheon (by reservation only)
Anderson Dining Room |
| 2:30-4:30 p.m. | Tour of Historic Macon (\$11.00) |
| 2:30 p.m. | Walking Tour of Wesleyan Campus |
| 3:00 p.m. | Alumnae-Student Soccer Game |
| 7:30-9:00 p.m. | Reception at Historic Hay House (by reservation only) |
| 8:30 p.m. | Scheduled Reunion Class Parties |
| 9:00 p.m. | Student Spring Weekend Dance
Alumnae Invited |

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8:00-9:00 a.m. | Early Bird Jogging-Walking and Bird Watching
Coffee-Pastries (by reservation) |
| 9:00 a.m. | Olive Swann Porter Foyer
Chapel Service
Burden Parlor
Dr. J. Frederick Wilson, Pastor
Dr. Mark Ledbetter, Chaplain |

NOTE: Equestrian Center open for visitation.

Adriane Kelly Wood '73
Alumnae Weekend Chairman

Reunion Classes for 1988

Listed below are the reunion classes for Alumnae Weekend — "Images of Friendships Renewed." As of January 5, 1988 we have class contacts for 11 of the reunion classes. For more information call the Alumnae office, 912-477-1110, ext. 185. All alumnae and friends are invited. It may not be your reunion year, but "Come on Back" and enjoy some of the special events.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1913 | |
| 1918 | |
| 1923 | |
| 1928 - | Ruth Kasey Yost
Mary Nell Wiley Strozier |
| 1933 - | Virginia Perry Buckner
Evelyn Thaxton Thrasher |
| 1938 - | Ann Munck
Mary Virginia Peters Carter
Frances Collins Huthnance |
| 1943 - | Angela Wilkerson O'Kelley |
| 1948 | |
| 1953 - | Alice Ann Hamilton |
| 1958 - | Nina Beth Sheppard Terrell |
| 1963 - | Karen Connor Shockley |
| 1973 | |
| 1978 - | Linda Halouska
Kathy Breland Bradley |
| 1983 - | Cynthia Bell Burns |
| 1984 | |
| 1985 - | Ellen Hogle McLemore |
| 1986 - | Dena Jones |
| 1987 | |

The Halloween production of *Hansel and Gretel* was a treat. Double cast, the opera was directed by Dona D. Vaughn '66, former Artist in Residence, University of New York. Alice Hopper played Gretel, Katherine Lawton Brown played the witch, and in this photo, Lisa Williams portrays Hansel.



Calendar of Events Spring 1988

FEBRUARY

- 3-6** **Wesleyan College Theatre Performance** — "The Real Queen of Hearts Ain't Even Pretty" by Brad Bailey. Porter Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. Admission: \$5.00 adults; \$3.00 students.
- 4-23** **Exhibit of Sculpture:** Gary Blackburn, assistant professor of art, Mercer University. East Gallery, Porter Auditorium, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Weekdays.
- 8** **Brazilian Concert:** With pianists Andrea Emmel, Cynthia Irion, and Vera Vianna, Porter Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. No admission charge.
- 10** **Piano Master Class.** David Northington, Benson Room. 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- 11** **Belk Lecture.** Dean Marjorie Suchocki, Dean of Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. Topic: "Eve and Adam." Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m. No admission charge.
- 11** **Belk Lecture.** Dean Suchocki. Topic: "Earthsong, Godsong: Woman's Spirituality." Benson Room, 8:00 p.m. No admission charge.
- 11** **In Concert:** David Northington, pianist, Porter Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. No admission charge.
- 14** **Sigma Alpha Iota Musicale.** Porter Auditorium, 3:00 p.m. No admission charge.
- 25** **Free Enterprise Week Program.** Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m. No admission charge.
- 25-27** **STUNT Production** — Porter Auditorium, Wesleyan College. 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.50.
- Feb. 27-March 30** **Juried Student Art Exhibition.** East Gallery, Porter Auditorium, Wesleyan College. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays. No admission charge.
- 28** **Faculty Recital** — Alice Hopper and Edward Eikner, Porter Auditorium, 3:00 p.m. No admission charge.

MARCH

- 2** **Morehouse Glee Club:** Porter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. No admission charge.
- 17** **Convocation. Speaker: Myron Jones, Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow.** Mr. Jones is presently a consultant on education and public policy and chairman of the Board of National Public Radio, 1982-83. Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m. No admission charge.
- 20** **In Concert:** Edward Eikner, pianist. Porter Auditorium, 5:00 p.m. Cherry Blossom Festival Event.
- 31** **Easter Service.** Speaker: The Reverend Paula Lytle. Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m.
- March 31-April 2** **Wesleyan College Theatre Performance** — "Angels Have Mercy" by Helma Clark. Porter Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. Admission: \$5.00 adults; \$3.00 students.
- APRIL**
- 4-15** **Wesleyan College Sophomore Portfolio Review Exhibition.** East Gallery, Porter Auditorium. Gallery open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays. No admission charge.
- 8** **Chanticleer Concert.** Porter Auditorium. 8:00 p.m. Chanticleer is a men's a cappella group.
- 14** **Alumnae Weekend Honors Day.** Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m.
- 17** **Spring Concert** — Wesleyan College Glee Club and the Wesleyannes. Porter Auditorium, Wesleyan College. 3:00 p.m. No admission charge.
- 18-30** **Wesleyan College Senior Art Exhibition.** East Gallery, Porter Auditorium. Gallery open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays. No admission charge.
- 19** **Awards Day.** Porter Auditorium, 11:15 a.m.
- 30** **Commencement:** Porter Auditorium, 10:00 a.m.

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Edward Eikner and Alice Hopper

Wesleyan In New York

Eikner and Hopper at Carnegie Recital Hall!

Make plans now to attend the performance of two of Wesleyan's music professors, Edward Eikner, pianist and Comer Professor of Music, and Alice Hopper, soprano and holder of the Hightower Chair of Music, scheduled for March 9, 1988 at 8:00 p.m.

Both Mr. Eikner and Ms. Hopper are thrilled to be performing in New York and hope to see a large gathering of alumnae, friends and family at the Carnegie Recital Hall, located on the corner of 57th and 7th avenues.

Concert tickets are complimentary from Wesleyan and may be picked up at the box office. Please call Wesleyan to reserve your concert tickets (912-477-1110, ext. 170).

To give alumnae a chance to see one another, a Wesleyan Alumnae Party is planned on the afternoon of the March 9 concert. The party will be held at the University Club, 1 West 54th Street, New York City. It promises to be lots of fun, so plan to attend.

If you live in Georgia and would like to travel with a group, the Wesleyan College Public Relations Office will be happy to send you a list of travel agencies offering group packages for the New York trip.